CINMS Management Plan
Update Process

Briefing for the Sanctuary Advisory Council
November 19, 2021
Status of Management Plan Update Process

- Sanctuary Condition Report released July 2019
- Public Scoping Period and Scoping Meetings Oct 1-Nov 15, 2019
- Management Issue Identification and Prioritization
- Develop Draft Management Plan and Environmental Review Documents
- WE ARE HERE
- We are here
- Publish Final Management Plan, Final Environmental Review, and Final Rule (Target: mid-2022)
- Prepare Final Management Plan, Environmental Review, and Final Rule
- 60-Day (or longer) Public Review and Comment on Draft Documents
- Release Draft Management Plan and Draft Environmental Assessment (Target: mid-Dec 2021)

= public and/or advisory council input
✓ = step complete
Status of Management Plan Update Process

Recent activities:

● Completed internal review process: Regional Director’s office, and ONMS Director
  ○ Incorporation of document edits and addressing comments
● Completion of copyediting services for Draft Management Plan and Draft Environmental Assessment
● ONMS Director approval to move forward with public release
● Final document layout/formatting in progress, preparing website and outreach materials
Building the Management Plan: Considerations

- Purpose and role of the sanctuary
- Mission: to understand and protect the marine ecosystem and cultural resources of CINMS for current and future generations, using cutting edge marine science, fostering public awareness and stewardship, and supporting access and responsible use.
- Jurisdictional authority
- Roles of other entities/agencies
- Available sanctuary tools and resources
- Resource limitations
- Capacities & strengths
- Future-oriented: 5-10 years
- Strategic/flexible vs. overly specific
- Public scoping comments
- Advisory council input
Draft Management Plan: Cross-Cutting Themes

- Addressing climate change
- Diversity and inclusion
- Partnerships and collaborations
- Community-based engagement
Overview of Action Plans

1. Climate Change
2. Marine Debris
3. Vessel Traffic
4. Introduced Species
5. Zone Management
6. Cultural Resources & Maritime Heritage
7. Education & Outreach
8. Research & Monitoring
9. Resource Protection
10. Operations & Administration
Primary changes

1. Shortened the Introduction to the management plan by 50%.

2. Re-titled the “Maritime Heritage Action Plan” to “Cultural Resource and Maritime heritage Action Plan” to highlight the importance of indigenous engagement.

3. Shortened each Action Plan introduction to 1 page.

4. Condensed strategies, refined some activities.
Climate Change Action Plan

**Goal:** Address ecosystem resilience, ecosystem services, climate adaptation, and ocean acidification through research and monitoring, capacity building, collaborative partnerships, and public education and outreach.

**Strategies:**
1. Address climate resilience and adaptation planning
2. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
3. Public engagement and communication
4. - 6. Research & monitoring
Goal: Assess, reduce and remove marine debris in the sanctuary

Strategies:
1. Assess the scope, scale, and sources of marine debris entering the sanctuary
2. Remove marine debris and reduce new inputs
3. Raise public awareness
Vessel Traffic Action Plan

**Goal:** Ensure that vessel traffic in the sanctuary is compatible with protecting sanctuary resources.

**Strategies:**
1. Vessel speed reduction program
2. Manage vessels spatially
3. Track and monitor vessel activity
Introduced Species Action Plan

Goals:
Prevent the introduction, spread, and establishment of newly introduced species and control or eradicate existing introduced species

Strategies
1. Support research, detection, and tracking efforts
2. Manage invasion vectors and promote prevention
3. Coordinate response plans with partners
Zone Management Action Plan

**Goal:** Manage the sanctuary’s protective zones via monitoring, outreach, enforcement, and cooperative administration. Work with partners to evaluate zone performance to inform future adaptive management.

**Strategies:**
1. Support management of the Channel Islands network of marine reserves and conservation areas
   - Following the MPA Decadal Review Process, evaluate need for adaptations in federal waters portions of the network of Channel Islands marine reserves and conservation areas in close consultation with CDFW.

2. Manage zones and sensitive areas

3. Participate in the Channel Islands Biosphere Reserve system
**Goal:** Inspire ocean literacy, climate literacy, stewardship, and conservation of the sanctuary

**Strategies:**
1. Advance K-12, college, & informal education programs
2. Enhance sanctuary interpretation, volunteer and outreach
3. Promote public engagement and stewardship through citizen science monitoring
4. Maintain and develop exhibits and signs
5. Foster and promote sustainable tourism and responsible use in support of the Blue Economy; emphasis on recreational fishing
6. Increase awareness through media and communication tools
Research & Monitoring Action Plan

Goal:
- Ensure the **best available science** is accessible to address current and projected sanctuary needs

Strategies:
1. Characterize and monitor biological and physical features and processes
2. Characterize and monitor ecosystem services of the sanctuary
3. Interpret and apply science information to meet our research needs
4. Support regional science priorities
5. Support national science priorities
Resource Protection Action Plan

**Goal:** Maintain, protect, and restore the sanctuary’s natural biological communities and maritime heritage resources by evaluating and addressing adverse impacts from human activities.

**Strategies:**
1. Emergency response
2. Enforcement
3. Emerging issues
4. Permitting
5. Policy guidance
Cultural Resources & Maritime Heritage Action Plan

Goals:
- Identify, protect, and raise awareness of the sanctuary’s cultural, maritime, historical, and archaeological resources
- Collaborate with and learn from Chumash community partners

Strategies:
1. Strengthen partnership with Chumash community
2. Inventory and assess maritime heritage sites
3. Manage and protect submerged maritime heritage resources
4. Maritime heritage landscape education & outreach
Operations & Administration Action Plan

Goal: Provide support for implementing effective programs

Strategies:
1. Manage sanctuary budget
2. Performance tracking and partnership support
3. Sanctuary Advisory Council
4. Facilitate field operations
5. Oversee facilities, assets, and IT
6. Administrative and HR support
Sanctuary Regulations

- No regulation or boundary changes proposed at this time

- Future regulatory adaptations possible (e.g., planned review of the network of marine reserves)

- Public scoping comments included a variety of suggestions for sanctuary regulatory changes

- Advisory council reviews and ratings were mixed/divided, with the most support for maintaining current regulations

- We have also been guided by many internal reviews, ONMS leadership briefings, and agency partner discussions
Upcoming Steps

- Announcement of Availability of Draft Management Plan and Draft Environmental Assessment (mid-December target)
  - Notice of Availability to be published in the Federal Register
  - Emails
  - Web site
  - Media outreach

- 60-Day (or maybe longer) Comment Period
  - Two online public comment sessions (target: mid and late January 2022)
  - Written comments accepted from regulations.gov
Upcoming Steps, continued

● Sanctuary Advisory Council
  ○ We want your input on the draft plan!
  ○ Members encouraged to review the document
  ○ Working groups and subcommittees may also wish to review
  ○ Development of comments to be shared - bring together at SAC meeting (target: Jan. 21, 2022)

● Council comment development and “bundling” process
  ○ Same approach proposed when the council developed management plan scoping comments